

SCOWCROFT

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FBIS 24 FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (SEE 26 OF 11 AUG AND 21 OF 12 AUG)

AFP CARRIES TEXT OF SIHANOUK MESSAGE TO MANSFIELD

B121108 HONG KONG AFP IN ENGLISH 1019 GMT 12 AUG 73 B

(TEXT) PEKING, AUG. 12 (AFP)--THE FOLLOWING IS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF A TELEGRAM SENT BY CAMBODIAN PRINCE NORODOM SIHANOUK ON AUGUST 10 TO AMERICAN SENATE MAJORITY LEADER MIKE MANSFIELD (DEMOCRAT, MONTANA). THE (WORDS INDISTINCT) IN FRENCH.

"SIR: PERMIT ME TO TELL YOU THAT I HAVE FOLLOWED WITH THE GREATEST INTEREST, INTENSE EMOTION AND PROFOUND GRATITUDE YOUR NOBLE AND GENEROUS ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF THE KHMER PEOPLE, WHO DO NOT DESERVE THE TERRIBLE MISFORTUNES AND INDESCRIBABLE SUFFERING INFLICTED ON THEM BY THE AMERICAN BOMBING, WHICH HAS INCREASED IN INTENSITY AND DEVASTATING POWER FOR THE PAST FIVE MONTHS.

"IN PRINCIPLE THE BOMBING IS SUPPOSED TO STOP ON AUGUST 15, BUT PRESIDENT NIXON, AS I KNOW HIM, WILL FIND WAYS TO PROLONG THE UNPRECEDENTED SUFFERINGS AND UNHAPPINESS OF THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE WELL BEYOND AUGUST 15, 1973. PRESIDENT NIXON INTENDS TO USE FORCE TO PREVENT THE KHMER NATIONAL RESISTANCE, WHICH I HEAR, FROM LIBERATING PHNOM PENH, BUT YOU CAN EASILY UNDERSTAND THAT THE UNITED NATIONAL FRONT OF CAMBODIA CAN NEVER GIVE UP THE IDEA OF LIBERATING 100 PERCENT OF OUR COUNTRY.

"AS CAMBODIAN PATRIOTS WE ARE NOT FIGHTING FOR THE CAUSE OF COMMUNISM. IN ANY CASE, THE NIXON MILITARY INTERVENTION IN CAMBODIA ALLEGEDLY TO CONTAIN COMMUNISM IS A POOR PRETEXT WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON HAS DECIDED TO PUT THE USA ON THE BEST POSSIBLE TERMS WITH THE TWO MOST POWERFUL COMMUNIST SYSTEMS ON EARTH, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE USSR.

"AS KHMER PATRIOTS WE ARE SIMPLY FIGHTING TO REESTABLISH NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND NEUTRALITY IN OUR COUNTRY. AT THE MOMENT, WE ARE FIGHTING ABSOLUTELY ALONE, WITHOUT ANY HELP FROM OUR VIET CONG OR NORTH VIETNAMESE FRIENDS. THIS MAKES THE U.S. MILITARY INTERVENTION AGAINST US ABSOLUTELY UNJUSTIFIED.

"THE UNITED NATIONAL FRONT AND THE CAMBODIAN ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION SWEAR TO YOU THROUGH ME THAT THEY TRULY DESIRE TO ATTAIN AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE THE PEACE WITH HONOR THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAS ALWAYS SAID HE WANTED.

NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION IN FULL 2010/03/10 : LOC-HAK-106-1-14-7  
BOMBING AND ALL OTHER DIRECT OR INDIRECT U.S. MILITARY  
INTERVENTION IN CAMBODIA AND THE COMPLETE AND DEFINITIVE  
END TO ALL MILITARY AID TO THE SELF-STYLED KHMER REPUBLIC.

"IF THESE TWO CONDITIONS ARE MET BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, CAMBODIA UNDER NUFC AND RGNUC IS READY TO FORGET THE UNHAPPY PAST AND TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

"AS FOR CAMBODIANS WHO COLLABORATED WITH U.S. IMPERIALISM, RGNUC WILL ALLOW WASHINGTON TO EVACUATE THE PRINCIPAL COLLABORATORS TO WHOM THE U.S. WANTS TO OFFER THEIR HOSPITALITY. SECOND-RATE COLLABORATORS CAN BE GIVEN A GENERAL AMNESTY IF THEY MAKE AMENDS TO NUFC AND RGNUC. THUS EVERYTHING CAN RETURN TO NORMAL.

"BUT IF PRESIDENT NIXON DOES NOT ACCEPT OUR REASONABLE AND EVEN FRIENDLY OFFERS, NUFC, RGNUC AND CPNLAF (CAMBODIAN PEOPLE'S ARMED FORCES FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION) WILL BE FORCED TO CONTINUE THEIR ARMED RESISTANCE TO THE END, EVEN IF WE MUST FIGHT ANOTHER 3 OR 10 OR 20 YEARS, BECAUSE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE IS NOT A MATTER FOR BARTERING OR COMPROMISE.

"SIR, SUCH IS THE ESSENCE OF THE CAMBODIAN PROBLEM.

"LET ME REITERATE SOLEMNLY THAT RGNUC, THE ONLY LEGAL GOVERNMENT FOR AN INDEPENDENT AND NON-ALIGNED CAMBODIA, WILL NEVER ACCEPT TALKS WITH THE PEOPLE IN PHNOM PENH, WHETHER THEY BE PRO-U.S. IMPERIALISM, PRO-FRENCH, PRO-SOVIET, PRO-JAPANESE, OR PRO-X...Y...Z..., THAT IS TO SAY A THIRD FORCE.

"IN SUMMARY, THE UNITED STATES HAS EVERY CHANCE OF ACHIEVING A PEACE IN HONOUR WITH US AND OF HAVING AN EMBASSY IN PHNOM PENH WHEN RGNUC IS ONCE AGAIN IN THE CAPITAL, IF ONLY THE U.S. WILL ACCEPT OUR REASONABLE PROPOSITIONS.

"BUT I VERY MUCH DOUBT THAT PRESIDENT NIXON WILL ACCEPT THEM. THEREFORE, I ASK THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENSURE THAT CAMBODIANS BE LEFT TO SETTLE THEIR DIFFERENCES ALONE WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE.

"SIR, I HOPE YOU WILL BE SO KIND AS TO DELIVER THIS MESSAGE TO THE U.S. CONGRESS TO BE STUDIED.

"PLEASE GIVE MY REGARDS TO MRS MANSFIELD. WITH MY GRATITUDE, ADMIRATION, RESPECT AND AFFECTION,

"NORODOM SIHANOUK, CHIEF OF STATE AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONAL FRONT OF CAMBODIA, PYONGYANG, AUGUST 10, 1973."

12 AUG 1302Z HWM/TM